New York City Watershed

Over the next 10 years, an investment of $2 billion in watershed protection avoids construction and operation expenses of a $6-8 billion filtration plant to supply drinking water to 9 billion people.

Sustainable development is…







75 percent of the watershed is privately owned. Surface water is vital to the long-term stewardship of the water supply. For generations, people have lived and worked in farming and natural resource industries within the watershed. Led by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Watershed Agricultural Council, restoration and protection activities support natural water filtration ecological services.

Goals:

- Maintain open-space land uses on 90 percent of the watershed
- Encourage landowners to use best management practices
- Use legal agreements to promote sustainable farming and forestry while limiting development

The USDA Forest Service is implementing a watershed forestry program to balance watershed protection and economic viability by restoring riparian areas and developing technologies to reduce municipal water treatment costs.

Natural Resources Conservation Service partners with the New York City Watershed Project helping private landowners protect natural resources by managing:

Erosion	Flood Protection	Grazing
Wildlife Habitat	Wetlands	Manure Handling

The Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service helps farmers identify problems with nutrient management and implement best management practices for economically viable agricultural production while protecting drinking water sources.

Levels of polychlorinated biphenyl contamination is being assessed by the Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees, a partnership of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Department of the Interior and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/water/swap.htm
www.epa.gov/region02/water/nycshed,
and www.health.state.nt.us/nysdoh/water/swap.htm
www.nycwatershed.org









